

Sir:

In response to the June 13, 2002 Office Action, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims¹

Please amend claims 14, 38-50 and 65 to read as follows:

14. (Thrice Amended) An adeno-associated virus vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide, the fusion polypeptide comprising:

a structural papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of L1-ORF, L2-ORF and fragments of any of the foregoing ORFs; and

an early papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of: E6-ORF, E7-ORF and fragments of any of the foregoing ORFs, wherein said early papillomavirus polypeptides or fragments thereof are non-transforming, and wherein the 3' end of the structural ORF is ligated to the 5' end of a non-transforming ORF to encode for the fusion polypeptide having a C-terminus of the structural polypeptide connected to a N-terminus of the non-transforming polypeptide.

38. (Amended) The vector of claim 14, wherein the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by non-transforming E6-ORF.

39. (Amended) The vector of claim 14, wherein the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by a fragment of non-transforming E6-ORF.

¹ Consistent with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a marked up version of the amended claims is contained in Appendix A hereof and a clean copy of all pending claims is contained in Appendix B hereof. Consistent with the holding of *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., Ltd.*, et al., 535 U.S. ____ (2002), decided May 28, 2002, any amendments herein that hereafter are deemed to be narrowing amendments by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final unappealed or unappealable decision, are not intended to relinquish any scope of equivalents unforeseeable at the time of this amendment or that relate to aspects of the invention having only a peripheral relation to the basis for the amendment.

40. (Amended) The vector of claim 14, wherein the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by non-transforming E7-ORF.

41. (Amended) The vector of claim 14, wherein the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by a fragment of non-transforming E7-ORF.

42. (Amended) The vector of claim 14, wherein the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 non-transforming E6-ORF.

43. (Amended) The vector of claim 14 wherein:
the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by non-transforming E6-ORF or a fragment thereof; and
structural papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by L2-ORF or a fragment thereof.

44. (Amended) The vector of claim 14 wherein:
the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 non-transforming E7-ORF or a fragment thereof; and
structural papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 L2-ORF or a fragment thereof.

45. (Amended) The vector of claim 14 wherein:
the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 non-transforming E6-ORF or a fragment thereof; and
structural papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 L2-ORF or a fragment thereof.

46. (Amended) The vector of claim 14 wherein:
the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 non-transforming E7-ORF or a fragment thereof; and
structural papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 16 L2-ORF or a fragment thereof.

47. (Amended) The vector of claim 14 wherein:

the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 18 non-transforming E6-ORF or a fragment thereof; and
structural papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 18 L2-ORF or a fragment thereof.

48. (Amended) The vector of claim 14 wherein:
the early papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 18 non-transforming E7-ORF or a fragment thereof; and
structural papillomavirus polypeptide is encoded by HPV 18 L2-ORF or a fragment thereof.

49. (Thrice Amended) An adeno-associated virus vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide, the fusion polypeptide comprising:

a structural human papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of L1-ORF and L2-ORF; and

an early human papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of: E6-ORF and E7-ORF, wherein said early human papillomavirus polypeptides are non-transforming, and wherein the 3' end of the structural ORF is ligated to the 5' end of a non-transforming ORF to encode for the fusion polypeptide having a C-terminus of the structural polypeptide connected to a N-terminus of the non-transforming polypeptide.

50. (Thrice Amended) An adeno-associated virus vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide, the fusion polypeptide comprising:

a structural human papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of L1-ORF and L2-ORF; and

an early human papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of: E6-ORF and E7-ORF, wherein said early human papillomavirus peptides are non-transforming, and wherein the 3' end of the structural ORF is ligated to the 5' end of a non-transforming ORF to encode for the fusion polypeptide having a C-terminus of the structural

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polypeptide connected to a N-terminus of the non-transforming polypeptide, and the human papillomavirus of (a) and (b) is selected from the group consisting of HPV 16, HPV 18, HPV 33, HPV 35 and HPV 45.

65. (Thrice Amended) A method for activating an immune system of a subject comprising administering to the subject an adeno-associated virus vector comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide, the fusion polypeptide comprising:

a structural papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of: L1-ORF, L2-ORF and fragments of any of the foregoing ORFs; and

an early papillomavirus polypeptide encoded by an open reading frame selected from the group consisting of: E6-ORF, E7-ORF and fragments of any of the foregoing ORFs, wherein said early papillomavirus polypeptides are non-transforming, and wherein the 3' end of the structural ORF is ligated to the 5' end of a non-transforming ORF to encode for the fusion polypeptide having a C-terminus of the structural polypeptide connected to a N-terminus of the non-transforming polypeptide.

Please cancel claims 26, 28 and 30-37.